



July 2003

July Meeting at Sonoma Fire Station
Our guest speaker will be hammin' an' surfen' the Internet

FROM THE TOP OF THE HILL

Another field day has come and gone. We took advantage of the new class F category by locating at an EOC. The police department turned out to be an ideal location, with room, trees for guying antennas and, best of all, a kitchen. The only downside was the band conditions, which were terrible. The club trailer once again was set up in record time with a tri-band beam. We decided not to have a generator of any kind, so our site was nice and quiet. Power was provided by batteries. (Thanks to Ed, W1EJ, for the donations.) We had some difficulty getting the solar panel converters working properly, but fortunately we had plenty of power from the fully charged batteries.

Many new club members were able to get on the HF bands for the first time and make some QSO's. Ed contributed with CW contacts. Craig and Tim stayed up late and made several contacts on 2m SSB. We probably didn't set any point records, but we had fun, and more importantly, demonstrated that we can set up several stations for emergency communications. If you have any comments or feedback, please let me know so that we can make it better for next year.

Our section manager, Len Gwinn, WA6K LK, will be stepping down after his term expires and his replacement will be Bill Hillendahl, KG6GJV. There was no election because Bill was the only candidate to file for the position.

Thanks to all who helped out with the 4th of July parade. Yesterday's paper confirmed my guess that it was the longest. Our next event is the Liberty ride. Contact Ken, N6KM, if you can help with this event. Let me know if you would like to build a GPS tracker. We were successful last year in tracking three vehicles using APRS.

The new 60 meter band is now in operation. I have listened a few times but heard no activity. Jan, AE6FQ, says it's possible to modify the ICOM 706 for operation on that band. Contact him if you are interested. Maybe we could have an antenna party and make up some dipoles for that band. Our July meeting will feature Dar Thompson, K6USW. Dar's topic will be ham radio via the Internet. It's now possible to have QSO's worldwide with a handheld radio.

Hope to see you on the 16th. Remember to get on the air. Busy bands keep the feds away.

73, Jim, K6UUW

**VOMARC NET - Wednesdays,
7:30 p.m.**

Net Control Operators
JUL K6ITE George
AUG KF6FZM Dick
SEP KG6LJP Ashley
OCT WD6BOR Darrel
NOV KG6LJN Dan
DEC K2IYQ Steve

For Sale

Club items

Frequency Counter 0 - 500 MHz
\$10

Contact Steve Todd, K2IYQ, 938-5016

**MAGAZINES, FREE TO A
GOOD HOME!**

It's not often that we have a second chance in life, but due to circumstances beyond anyone's control, those poor, unloved, unwanted ham magazines haven't gone into the furnace yet.

Darrel, WD6BOR, has about twenty years' worth of various ham radio and electronics magazines that are looking for a good home. They include back issues of QST, Ham Radio, 73, CQ, Popular Electronics, Radio-Electronics, and some Amateur Television magazines.

He had collected them for use in an electronics class he taught for many years, but is no longer teaching.

The magazines contain a wealth of information about building, operating, antennas, radio product reviews, and various ham activities.

If any VOMARC member wants to adopt these adorable magazines before they fall prey to a seriously unstable arsonist (or long-suffering wife), give Darrel a call at 996-4494 to arrange for pick-up or delivery.

MINUTES OF VOMARC MEETING
JUNE 18, 2003

This month's meeting was a BBQ held at the Sonoma Police Department outdoor facility.

Treasurer's report: There was \$400 deposited in the bank.

Reminder that Club Shirts are available for \$15 each. There was discussion of using the shirts as a fundraiser.

ACS Report by Ken McTaggart, N6KM:

The picnic at Spring Lake held in appreciation of all the Sonoma County emergency volunteers was attended by George, K6ITE, Dan, KG6LJN, Linda KG6LJM, Ken, N6KM, and Pat KE6LNN. There was a certificate of appreciation given by the DES to our Sonoma Valley ACS unit.

We will provide communication for the 4th of July parade as we usually do. Jan Bush, AE6FQ, will be coordinator. He will need volunteers to staff the various positions along the parade route.

Sunday August 10th will be the Liberty Ride. This is a charity event for Sonoma Developmental Center. Again, volunteers are needed to staff the positions along the route and in the SAG wagons.

The last Sunday in September is the Vintage Festival Parade. We will provide communications assistance for the event also.

These are good ways to work a net and gain experience in the event of an emergency situation.

There are two new members of ACS, Tom, K6JQJ, & KG6QNT.

Old Business;

Field day will be operated at the EOC in the Sonoma police Department. Darrel, WD6BOR, will coordinate this event. We need three radios and a spare. We will run off of batteries and solar power. This "contest" held the last full weekend every June is an exercise in emergency preparedness. We need Anderson Power Pole Connectors. Further discussion of field day ensued. Jim, Ed, George and Darrel will bring radios.

Steve, K2IYQ, handed out solar kits for the solar panel. We need 150 turns of #14 wire on the toroids. We have 12 solar panels. Four charger boards and 8 solar panels are ours.

Officers present, Jim Hill, K6UUW, President; George Maurer, K6ITE, Vice President, Steve Todd, K2IYQ, Treasurer, Darrell Jones, WD6BOR, Editor; Ken McTaggart, N6KM, ACS officer.

Raffle Ticket winner for the month, Kermit, W6JFN

Respectfully submitted by Dan Sorrick in the absence of the Secretary, Joan, W6WXU.

(Thank you, Dan)

THE VOMARC WIRELESS

VOLUME 7 EDITION 7

A publication of VOMARC, the Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club – W6AJF

Frank C. Jones – W6AJF

Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Jim Hill, K6UUW – Da Prez

George Maurer, K6ITE– Next in Line

Joan Brady, W6WXU – Royal Scribe

Steve Todd, K2IYQ – Da Bank

Mike Miller, WB6TMH – Mr. Fixit

Ken McTaggart, N6KM – Trustee (out on parole)

Steve Todd, K2IYQ – Club Social Secretary

Jan Bush, AE6FQ _ Lord of the Internet

Darrel Jones, WD6BOR – Arsonist-at-large

Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC.

CLUB MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of each month, alternating between McDougal Hall at the Sonoma Developmental Center, Eldridge, and the Sonoma Fire Station, 2nd Street West, Sonoma. Meetings start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

WEB PAGE:

<http://www.vomarc.org/>

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600, PL 88.5 Hz.

ACS holds a net each Monday evening at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

PACKET STATION INFO: The VOMARC packet station is on 144.910 as “SNV1EC”. “SNVGW” can be used as a gateway digipeating on 223.66 MHz. The node name is “SNVND”.

CLUB BREAKFASTS are held on the first Saturday of each month at ? Restaurant, 18999 Sonoma Highway, Sonoma. The fun starts at 09:30 local.

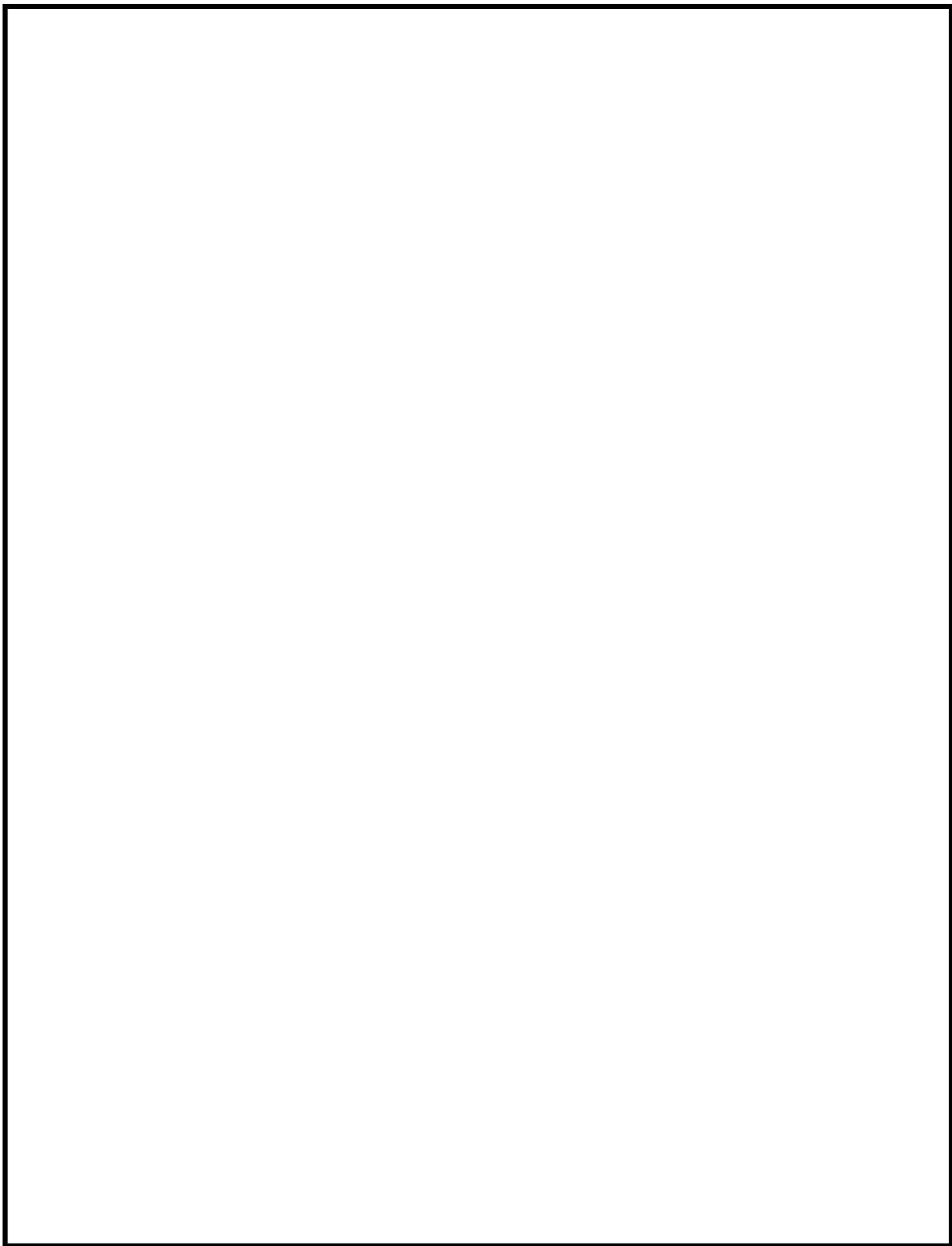
Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

WD6BOR@VOM.COM

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.

175 First Street West

Sonoma, CA 95476



**Valley of the Moon
ARC
18958 Carillo Court
Sonoma CA 95476**

**NOTICE!!! THE JULY VOMARC MEETING IS THIS
WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, AT 7:30 P.M. AT THE SONOMA
FIRE STATION, 630 SECOND ST. WEST, SONOMA!
CU THERE!**

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP

VOMARC 2003 Membership Dues: \$10/year individual; \$5/year family member.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.

QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Address: _____ APT: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

VOMARC:\$ _____ ARRL:\$ _____ TOTAL:\$ _____

Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC** - 18958 Carillo
Court, Sonoma, CA 95476-5570